

CLAIMS:

1. A method of navigating in application views of an electronic device, the electronic device comprising a display for showing application views and an input device, the method comprising:

5 displaying an initial application view on the display;
 providing a floatable navigation area displayed at least partly over the application views on the display, the floatable navigation area comprising navigation blocks for controlling given software functions;
 detecting a selection of a given navigation block indicated by the input device;
10 performing software functions associated with the selected navigation block once the selection of said navigation block is detected; and
 displaying a current application view on the basis of the performed software functions.

15 2. The method of claim 1, the method further comprising providing a control block in the floatable navigation area for changing the location of the floatable navigation area, and changing the location of the floatable navigation area on the basis of detected control commands from the control block.

20 3. The method of claim 1, the method further comprising providing the floatable navigation area when the initial application view is opened in the display.

25 4. The method of claim 1, the step of performing software functions comprising scrolling the initial application view horizontally or vertically to produce a current application view.

30 5. The method of claim 1, the step of performing software functions comprising zooming in to or out of the initial application view to produce the current application view.

35 6. The method of claim 1, the method further comprising displaying the floatable navigation area semi-transparently over an application view.

7. The method of claim 1, the method further comprising displaying outlines of the floatable navigation area over the application views.

8. The method of claim 1, the method further comprising displaying
5 outlines of the navigation blocks over the application views.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the input device comprises a touch screen and the step of detecting the selection of a given navigation block comprises detecting one or more touches on the given navigation block indicated by the touch screen.
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10. The method of claim 8, the step of performing the software functions being based on the detected one or more touches on the given navigation block indicated by the touch screen.
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11. An electronic device for navigating in application views, the electronic device comprising a control unit for controlling functions of the electronic device, a display for showing application views coupled to the control unit, and an input device for giving control commands for navigating, coupled to the control unit, the control unit being configured to:
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display an initial application view on the display;

provide a floatable navigation area displayed at least partly over the application views on the display, the floatable navigation area comprising navigation blocks for controlling given software functions;

25 detect a selection of a given navigation block indicated by the input device;

perform software functions associated with the selected navigation block once the selection of said navigation block is detected; and

display a current application view on the basis of the performed software functions.
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12. The electronic device of claim 11, wherein the control unit is further configured to provide a control block in the floatable navigation area for changing the location of the floatable navigation area; and change the location
35 of the floatable navigation area on the basis of detected control commands from the control block.

13. A graphical user interface for navigating in application views shown on a display of an electronic device, the graphical user interface comprising:

- 5 an initial application view displayed on the display;
- a floatable navigation area displayed at least partly over the application view, the floatable navigation area comprising navigation blocks for controlling given software functions; and
- 10 a current application view displayed on the display on the basis of performed software functions associated with a detected selected navigation block.

14. The graphical user interface of claim 13, further comprising a control block in the floatable navigation area for changing the location of the floatable navigation area on the basis of detected control commands from the control block.

15. The graphical user interface of claim 13, wherein a current application view is produced by the software functions scrolling the initial application view horizontally or vertically.

16. The graphical user interface of claim 13, wherein the current application view is produced by the software functions zooming in to or out of the initial application view.

17. The graphical user interface of claim 13, wherein the floatable navigation area is displayed semi-transparently over the application views.

18. The graphical user interface of claim 13, wherein outlines of the floatable navigation area are displayed over the application views.

19. The graphical user interface of claim 13, wherein outlines of the navigation blocks are displayed over the application views.

20. A computer program product encoding a computer process for providing navigating in an application view of an electronic device, the computer process comprising:

- displaying an initial application view on a display;
- 5 providing a floatable navigation area displayed at least partly over the application views on the display, the floatable navigation area comprising navigation blocks for controlling given software functions;
- detecting a selection of a given navigation block;
- performing software functions associated with the selected navigation block once the selection of said navigation block is detected; and
- 10 displaying a current application view on the basis of the performed software functions.

21. The computer program product of claim 20, further performing
15 the functions of providing a control block in the floatable navigation area for changing the location of the floatable navigation area; and changing the location of the floatable navigation area on the basis of detected control commands from the control block.

22. An electronic device for navigating in application views, the electronic device comprising controlling means for controlling functions of the electronic device, displaying means for showing application views, and input means for giving control commands for navigating, the controlling means being further configured to:

- 25 display an initial application view on a display;
- provide a floatable navigation area displayed at least partly over the application views on the display, the floatable navigation area comprising navigation blocks for controlling given software functions;
- detect a selection of a given navigation block indicated by the input means;
- 30 perform software functions associated with the selected navigation block once the selection of said navigation block is detected; and
- display a current application view on the basis of the performed software functions.